

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

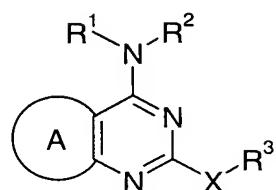
Listings of claims

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled)

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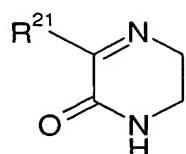
11. A compound of formula (I)



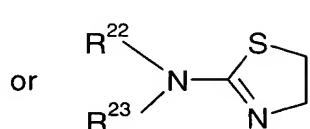
(I)

15 wherein:

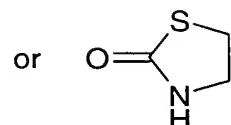
A represents a group of formula (a) or (b) or (c):



(a)



(b)



(c)

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R¹ and R² independently represent H, C1 to 8 alkyl, C2 to 8 alkenyl, C2 to 8 alkynyl or C3 to 7 saturated or partially unsaturated cycloalkyl; the latter four groups being optionally further substituted by one or more groups selected independently from OH, C1 to 6 alkoxy, CH₂OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, CO₂R⁷ and CONR⁸R⁹;

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R³ represents C1 to 6 alkyl, C2 to 6 alkenyl, C2 to 6 alkynyl or C3 to 7 saturated or partially unsaturated cycloalkyl; said alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl chain optionally including a O, NR¹⁰ or S atom in the chain; said alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or cycloalkyl group being

optionally substituted by phenyl or a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected independently from O, S and N; said phenyl or heteroaromatic ring being optionally further substituted by one or more groups selected independently from halogen, C1 to 4 alkyl, OH, C1 to 4 alkoxy, CN, CO₂R¹¹, NR¹²R¹³, CONR¹⁴R¹⁵, SO₂R¹⁶, NR¹⁷SO₂R¹⁸ and SO₂NR¹⁹R²⁰;

X represents O or S(O);

R²¹ represents H, CH₂OR²⁴, CH₂NR²⁴R²⁵, CO₂R²⁴ or CONR²⁴R²⁵;

R²² and R²³ independently represent H, C1 to 6 alkyl, C2 to 6 alkenyl or C3 to 7 saturated or partially unsaturated cycloalkyl; said alkyl, alkenyl or cycloalkyl group being optionally substituted by OR²⁴, NR²⁴R²⁵, CO₂R²⁴ or CONR²⁴R²⁵; or the group -NR²²R²³ together represents a 3 to 7 membered saturated azacyclic ring optionally incorporating one further heteroatom selected from O, S(O)_n and NR²⁶; and optionally substituted by OR²⁴, NR²⁴R²⁵, CO₂R²⁴ or CONR²⁴R²⁵;

n represents an integer 0, 1 or 2;

R⁴, R⁵, R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰, R¹¹, R¹², R¹³, R¹⁴, R¹⁵, R¹⁶, R¹⁷, R¹⁸, R¹⁹, R²⁰, R²⁴, R²⁵ and R²⁶ independently represent H or C1 to 6 alkyl;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

25 12. A compound according to Claim 11 wherein R¹ represents H or CH₃.

13. A compound according to Claim 11 wherein R² represents C1 to 8 alkyl substituted by OH or C3 to 7 cycloalkyl substituted by OH or CH₂OR⁴.

30 14. A compound according to Claim 11 wherein R³ represents C1 to 2 alkyl substituted by phenyl; said phenyl being optionally substituted by halogen, C1 to 6 alkoxy or CN.

15. A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for use as a medicament.

16. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, optionally in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

5 17. A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, a human disease or condition in which antagonism of the CX₃CR1 receptor is beneficial which comprises administering to a person suffering from or susceptible to such a disease or condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

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18. The use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of human diseases or conditions in which antagonism of the CX₃CR1 receptor is beneficial.

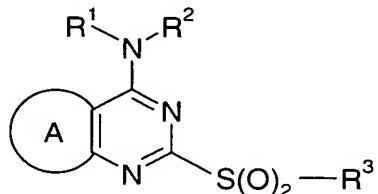
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19. The use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of neurodegenerative disorders, demyelinating disease, atherosclerosis or pain.

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20. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 11 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein the process comprises:

(a) when X in formula (I) represents O, reaction of a compound of formula (II)



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(II)

wherein A, R¹, R² and R³ are as defined in Claim 11;

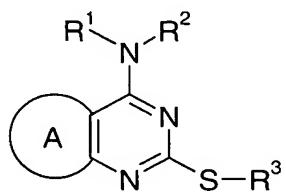
with a compound of formula (III)



(III)

wherein R^3 is as defined in Claim 11 and is independent of the R^3 group in formula (II); or

5 (b) when X in formula (I) represents S(O), oxidation of a compound of formula (IV)



(IV)

wherein A, R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are as defined in Claim 11; with one equivalent of an oxidising

10 agent;

and where necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into a further compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

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